

November 18, 2004

MARSHA GOODWIN-BECK INTERDISCIPLINARY AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE IN GERIATRICS

1. PURPOSE: This Veterans Health Administration (VHA) Notice announces the establishment of the Marsha Goodwin-Beck Awards for Excellence in Geriatrics.

2. BACKGROUND: These awards, honoring Marsha E. Goodwin-Beck, Registered Nurse-Certified (RN-C), Master's Degree of Arts (MA), Master's Degree of Science in Nursing (MSN), former Director of Geriatric Programs, recognizes outstanding geriatric health care providers and leaders in the interdisciplinary care of older veterans. The recipients of these awards should show a sustained commitment to the needs of veterans in their advancing years.

a. Marsha Goodwin-Beck, RN-C, MA, MSN, served as VHA's Director of Geriatric Programs for 14 years. During that time she exemplified the ideal in national leadership in geriatrics. Her intelligent, articulate, and passionate approach to the geriatric health policy challenges of the day made her an effective spokesperson on any and all long-term care issues.

b. One award per category will be given annually. The nominees must be employed by VHA currently at least 5/8 time in any health care profession. Each winner receives a plaque and a cash award. The recipient of the Excellence in Geriatric Clinical Care Delivery award will receive \$3,000 and the recipient of the Excellence in Geriatric Leadership award will receive \$5,000.

c. An evaluation committee appointed by the Chief Patient Care Services Officer reviews all nominations. The evaluation committee recommends final nominees through the Chief Patient Care Services Officer to the Under Secretary for Health who approves the final selection. The awards are to be presented at a National Leadership Board Meeting.

d. Each facility Director, VHA Central Office Chief Consultant, Clinical Program Director, or Geriatric Research, Education and Clinical Center (GRECC) Director may nominate one candidate in each category per year.

3. AREAS OF RECOGNITION: Two award categories have been established, Excellence in Geriatric Clinical Care Delivery and Excellence in Geriatric Leadership.

a. **Excellence in Geriatric Clinical Care Delivery.** The recipient is an individual practitioner in any health care setting who has demonstrated excellence in "hands on" direct geriatric patient care.

b. **Excellence in Geriatric Leadership.** The recipient is an individual health care practitioner in a leadership or management position who has demonstrated excellence through exceptional support for direct patient care providers, for geriatric education and training, or for

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geriatric health policy leadership, including support of innovations enhancing the quality of direct geriatric patient care delivery, education, and training.

4. CRITERIA

a. Award for Excellence in Geriatric Clinical Care Delivery

(1) Evidence that the nominee exemplifies excellence in the delivery of geriatric care and has had an effective role in improving the quality of health care for aging veteran patients.

(2) Evidence that the nominee has been a positive role model for the health care profession and is recognized by management and colleagues for excellence and dedication in the provision of geriatric care.

(3) Evidence that the nominee works effectively with the health care team to promote excellence in the interdisciplinary delivery of clinical care in geriatrics.

(4) Evidence that the nominee is recognized by the patients served or their families as an outstanding health care practitioner.

b. Award for Excellence in Geriatric Leadership

(1) Evidence that the nominee's leadership exemplifies Marsha Goodwin-Beck's excellence in leadership and has significantly contributed to improving the quality of geriatric patient care, education and training, or health policy either locally, throughout the network, or nationally.

(2) Evidence that the nominee supports originality, creativity and innovation in the delivery of direct geriatric clinical care, education, and training.

(3) Evidence that the nominee's outstanding leadership is recognized by management, colleagues, and subordinates.

5. NOMINATION PACKAGE: The nomination package needs to include:

a. A letter from the facility Director, VHA Central Office Chief Consultant, Clinical Program Director, or the GRECC Director summarizing the basis for the nomination. The transmittal letter is to include nominator's name, office, mail symbol, and telephone number.

b. Concurrence by the Network Director for field nominees, or the VHA Chief Program Officer for VHA Central Office nominees.

c. Current curriculum vitae, resume, or other summary of education, training, and work history.

d. Two to four letters of support outlining the nominee's contributions.

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e. A summary of the nominee's achievements clearly identifying the nomination category. The summary is not to exceed three pages in length and must address the items in either subparagraph 4a or subparagraph 4b.

f. Submit an original and five copies of the complete nomination package to: Department of Veterans Affairs, Office of the Chief Patient Care Services (114), 810 Vermont Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20420.

g. The nomination package is due to the Chief of Patient Care Services no later than December 31. Final nominations are due to the Under Secretary for Health no later than March 1.

6. RESPONSIBLE OFFICE: The Geriatrics and Extended Care Strategic Healthcare Group (114), is responsible for the contents of this Notice. For additional information, contact (202) 273-7365.

7. RECISSION: This VHA Notice expires November 30, 2008.

S/ Arthur S. Hamerschlag for
Jonathan B. Perlin, MD, PhD, MSHA, FACP
Acting Under Secretary for Health

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